



03500.017948

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| KENICHI HAYASHI, ET AL. |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| Application No.: 10/789,985 |) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Filed: March 2, 2004 |) | |
| For: SHEET PROCESSING APPARATUS |) | March 30, 2004 |
| AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS |) | |
| INCLUDING THE SHEET PROCESSING |) | |
| APPARATUS |) | |

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed Japanese reference is also enclosed.

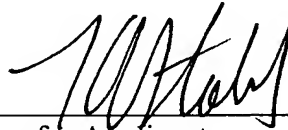
A concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document may be found at page 3 of the specification.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

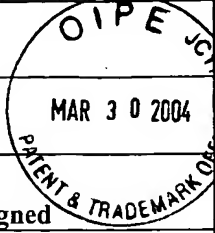
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. A. Stahl', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Lawrence A. Stahl
Registration No. 30,110

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LAS:eyw

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: March 30, 2004 | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017948 | | APPLICATION NO. 10/789,985 | |  |
| | | | | APPLICANT KENICHI HAYASHI, ET AL. | | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE March 2, 2004 | | GROUP Unassigned | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | |
| | | 5,897,250 | 04/27/1999 | Hirai et al. | 399 | 404 | | |
| | | 5,911,414 | 06/15/1999 | Kato et al. | 270 | 58.07 | | |
| | | 6,241,234 | 06/05/2001 | Saitoh et al. | 270 | 58.12 | | |
| | | 6,264,194 | 07/24/2001 | Hayashi et al. | 271 | 220 | | |
| | | 2003/0044186 | 03/06/2003 | Kato et al. | 399 | 16 | | |
| | | 2003/0049063 | 03/13/2003 | Suzuki et al. | 399 | 407 | | |
| | | 2003/0184010 | 10/02/2003 | Kato et al. | 271 | 207 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT | |
| | | 9-48545 | 02/18/1997 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

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